STI BULLETIN

A publication for users of the NASA scientific and technical information program

STI Program Transferred to Langley Research Center

On April 10, Benita A. Cooper, associate administrator for the NASA Office of Management Systems and Facilities (Code J) informed the NASA community that the operational responsibility for the STI Program was transferred from NASA Headquarters to NASA's Langley Research Center (LaRC) effective March 29, 1996. LaRC assumes the leadership role in determining the future direction of the STI Program, based on policy from NASA Headquarters.

Responsibility for reviewing and reengineering the STI Program's processes to acquire, catalog, and disseminate NASA's STI will be assumed by LaRC in conjunction with STI users. NASA Headquarters assumes a policy role and will draft a new STI Policy Directive. Headquarters will also continue in the role of managing the international and interagency STI exchange agreements.

Langley has put together a team that is preparing the initial reengineering plan led by Mr. George J. Roncaglia, formerly head of the Technical Library Branch, now the acting agency STI Program operations manager. At headquarters, Mr.Roland M. Ridgeway, currently head of STI Information Services will become the agency STI Program manager.

More information about the STI Program's new direction will be announced in future issues of the STI Bulletin. One thing is clear, an exciting time has begun for the STI Program and at the heart of the changes is a concern for the best interests of the STI user community.

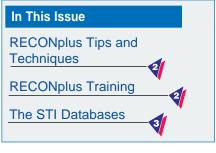## Document Pricing Changes, Starting July 1

Beginning July 1, 1996 the NASA STI program will institute a new pricing schedule for its Document Delivery Service.

Microfiche and Paper Copy Reports

	Domestic	Foreign		Domestic	Foreign
A01	$ 6.50	$13.00	A14	$49.00	$ 98.00
A02	10.00	20.00	A15	49.00	98.00
A03	19.50	39.00	A16	49.00	98.00
A04	21.50	43.00	A17	49.00	98.00
A05	21.50	43.00	A18	57.00	114.00
A06	25.00	50.00	A19	57.00	114.00
A07	28.00	56.00	A20	57.00	114.00
A08	31.00	62.00	A21	57.00	114.00
A09	35.00	70.00	A22	67.00	134.00
A10	38.00	76.00	A23	67.00	134.00
A11	41.00	82.00	A24	67.00	134.00
A12	44.00	88.00	A25	67.00	134.00
A13	47.00	94.00	A99	Contact NASA CASI	

The $1.50 Domestic/$9.00 Foreign shipping and handling fee currently being charged will remain the same. Foreign airmail is $27.00 for the first 1-3 items, $9.00 for each additional item.

Additionally, a new processing fee of $2.00 per each video ordered will be assessed. The new pricing schedule reflects the increase in labor and resources.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Scientific and Technical Information Office

RECONplus *Tips and Techniques*

RECONplus is the STI program's new client\server based retreival system accessing the three million records in the STI Database. RECONplus is fast, flexible, and easy to use. The menu driven Character Based Interface (CBI) offers three search modes that allow increasing search complexity. This issue reviews the databases available with RECONplus and discusses break characters and special characters that affect your search strategy.

The next several issues of the *STI Bulletin* will offer tips and strategies to help you find the documents you need in the fastest possible way. If you have specific search questions or want access to the database please e-mail the NASA Access Help Desk at help@sti.nasa.gov, fax to 301-621 0134, or call 301-621-0390.

Break Characters

Break characters are characters that are not retained when indexing a text string. For example, in the Abstract *field* the term "angle-ply" is displayed with the hyphen. However, in the Abstract *index*, the terms angle and ply are indexed as two separate words. The system treats break characters as "word" separators. The break characters are listed in the table below.

Special Characters

Some characters and character strings have special uses within the RECONplus command language. These must be preceded by a forward slash (/) when they are used in a search statement. For example, Texas A&M University must be keyed as Texas A/&M University, because the ampersand (&) is a special character for the AND operator. The character strings "And," "Or," or "Not," when they are used as index search tag values, must be preceded by a forward slash (/). For example, when searching for research and development as a phrase, the word "and" must be keyed as "/AND:" "research /AND development." The special characters are listed in the table below.

Breaking Characters		Special Charters	
Open Parenthesis	(	Open Parenthesis	(
Close Parenthesis	)	Close Parenthesis	)
Forward Slash	/	Forward Slash	/
Backward Slash	\	Backward Slash	\
Colon	:	Colon	:
Semi-colon	;	Semi-colon (OR)	;
Hyphen	-	Less Than	<
Blank[1]		Greater Than	>
		Apostrophe	'
		Equal to	=
		Ampersand (AND)	&
		Hyphen	-
		NOT[2]	

[1] A blank space, entered using the space bar, not the arrow keys.
[2] RECONplus uses no symbol for NOT.

RECONplus Training Schedule

MONTH	DAY		TIME
August	30	(Friday)	9:00-4:00
September	9	(Monday)	9:00-4:00
September	27	(Friday)	9:00-4:00
October	7	(Monday)	9:00-4:00
October	25	(Friday)	9:00-4:00

The STI Databases

The databases used by RECONplus are described below. Your access priviledges determine the databases you can search.

Main STI Database (STI)

Coverage: 1963-Present (Frequency of Update: Weekly)

The records in this database represent the NASA Open Literature reports, and comprise globally published literature in the fields of aeronautics and space science. Included are periodicals, government sponsored journals, books, and conference proceedings issued from professional and academic organizations. Also included are the unclassified documents announced in the published NASA Scientific and Technical Aerospace Reports (STAR). This includes NASA, NASA contractor, and NASA grantee reports; reports issued by other Government agencies, domestic and foreign institutions, universities, and private firms; translations in report form; and dissertations. These emphasize aeronautics, space science, and supporting disciplines. Also included are Computer Software Management and Information Center (COSMIC) documents, Tech Brief documents, and the Research and Development contract materials. COSMIC documents contain manuscript abstracts of computer programs developed by NASA, the Department of Defense, other Government agencies, and their respective contractors. NASA Tech Briefs are articles on the technical innovations that originate out of the NASA Centers. The Research and Development Contract materials contain information about research and development contracts, grants, and work orders. These items are not documents.

Controlled Distribution STI Database (STIL)

Coverage: 1968-Present (Frequency of Update: Weekly)

This database is composed of controlled distribution Scientific and Technical Aerospace Reports, which include references to NASA-funded classified and controlled distribution distribution documents. These items are significant and current, emphasizing space science, aeronautics, and supporting disciplines. Also included are the Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) reports. The controlled distribution status of these references is updated at designated intervals.

Older STI Database (STIO)

Coverage: 1962-1969 (Frequency of Update: Closed File)

The records in this database represent the NASA Open Literature reports, and comprise globally published litera-

ture in the fields of aeronautics and space science. Included are periodicals, government sponsored journals, books, and conference proceedings issued from professional and academic organizations. Also included are the unclassified documents announced in the published NASA Scientific and Technical Aerospace Reports (STAR). The documents in STAR are composed of NASA, NASA contractor, and NASA grantee reports; reports issued by other Government agencies, domestic and foreign institutions, universities and private firms; translations in report form; and dissertations. These emphasize aeronautics, space science, and supporting disciplines.

Older Controlled Distribution STI Database (STIOL)

Coverage: 1962-1967 (Frequency of Update: Closed File)

This database is composed of includes controlled distribution Scientific and Technical Aerospace Reports, which include references to NASA-funded classified and controlled distribution distribution documents. The records in this database are from the years of 1962- 1967.

Early Aviation Collection

The following files are not combined.

NACA Holdings File (CNACA)

Coverage: 1915-1960 (Frequency of Update: Quarterly)

The records in this database represent the documents produced by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) and the documents collected by NACA libraries, both foreign and domestic, about early aviation research and development. These records are converted from NASA ARIN records and include an indication of where copies of the documents are located within NASA.

NACA Historical File (NACA)

Coverage: 1915-1960 (Frequency of Update: Closed File)

The records in this database contains more than 100,000 catalog cards and technical notes that served as the library shelf list for NACA Committee Headquarters. The records contain reports from foreign and domestic Government agencies and industries.

You can contact the **NASA Access Help Desk** at (301) 621-0390, fax (301) 621-0134, e-mail at **help@sti.nasa.gov**, or write NASA Access Help Desk, NASA Center for AeroSpace Information, 800 Elkridge Landing Road, Linthicum Heights, MD 21090-2934.

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Space Administration
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